

## EMPLOY CONVICTS ON PUBLIC ROADS

Many Urge Abandonment of Contract Labor System.

## BILL AGREED TO BY GOVERNOR MANN

He Would Allow Board to Contract for 500 More Desperate Men—Thacher Company Says It Will Retire From Virginia—May Sell Penitentiary.

Complete abolition of the practice of selling the labor of Virginia convicts by contract was advocated by many speakers last night before the joint session of the Senate and House Committees on Roads and Internal Navigation. In behalf of humanity, in behalf of road building, in behalf of free labor, the speakers were made. No voice was raised in opposition to the abandonment of the contract system, although questions asked in some quarters and answers made by the superintendent of the State Penitentiary and the State Prison Farm did not indicate unanimity of opinion.

### Two Other Bills.

The interesting features of the session were three: Former Senator Charles Trotter last night offered a bill of his own construction, which will be introduced by Senator Lerner to-day, providing that a penitentiary shall be established on the State Prison Farm, in Gloucester county, that State Farms be established in each of the congressional districts that the penitentiary property in this city be sold, and that the road funds include not only felons, but those inmates of the jails who have been found guilty of misdemeanors.

A measure was introduced by State Highway Commissioner J. J. Wilson, which allows the board of directors of the penitentiary to make a contract for the hire of not exceeding 500 convicts to include the classes of long-term men and those whom it would be unsafe to work on the roads.

### Thacher Will Retire.

Vigorous and unqualified denial was made by the Thacher Company of a charge that it had paid a bribe for a contract. A telegram was read by joint Chairman Throckmorton as follows:

Boston, Mass., January 29, 1912.

Hon. C. W. Throckmorton,

Chairman House Roads Committee,

U. S. Capitol, Richmond, Va.:

We emphatically deny the charge that we are maintaining lobby for renewal of our contract. We have not bid for contract, and under present conditions do not want a renewal. We have started a factory elsewhere and expect to expire our contract to move our business entirely from its present location.

(Signed) THE THACHER COMPANY.

A point of no little interest was opposition to the proposal of the Governor, the United Agricultural Board and the State Farmers' Institute that the convicts be used in grinding agricultural lime. It was voted by Senator Blackburn Smith, of Clarke, who said that the same arguments of the competition of convict labor with free labor in manufacturing shoes applied with equal force to lime grinding, as the convicts are several plants in this session.

Senator Gravatt, who hopes to see lime grinding made a fact, asked Senator Smith some questions, which indicated that he will not consent to such a construction.

### No Extra Cost to State.

Senator E. C. Folkes opened and closed the debate for the advocates of the Lerner bill, which prohibits contracts and stipulates that all men save those too desperate shall be used on the roads, and that the remainder on clothes and other material for inmates of State institutions. Senator Folkes said that 700 convicts have been employed on the roads at a cost of \$100,000, and that 700 more could be used in the same way for a similar sum. This would leave the 500 more desperate men to be engaged as stated in the bill. These extra men on the roads would take the place of State money aid. He did not think it would cost the State an additional dollar.

James J. Creamer told how he had fought for this proposition for twenty years, and was glad that he was now a member of the Legislature, so that he might be in at the funeral of contract convict labor. He was not so much opposed because of the competition with free labor, but on the score of humanity. It was inhuman, he argued, for the State to sell the labor of its felons to enrich private pockets. Now was the chance to get at the matter, and he believed the Legislature would do it. For years he had lived within two blocks of the State Penitentiary, and said in passing that that institution is more humanely managed than at any time within his recollection. The desperate men could make shoes and clothing and school furniture. He closed with an appeal to wipe out the blot on the fair name of Virginia.

History of Road Work.

Former Senator Lassiter dealt with the subject at length. He traced the history of convict labor on the roads

## RICHMOND TO GAIN HOUSE MEMBER

Will Evidently Have Six During Coming Decade.

## EQUAL SUFFRAGE LOSES IN SENATE

Committee Hears Argument of Women and Reports Unfavorably—Book Company Will Get Approving Report. No Decision on Rolling Stock Bill.

Richmond will probably get what it asks in the way of representation in the House of Delegates for the next ten years—six members. This is an increase of one, to which, it was stated at yesterday's hearing on the Chicheley bill, is clearly entitled by reason of the increase in population and in proportionate numbers to the rest of the State. Besides, the annexation of Manchester relieves the situation so that readjustments can be made elsewhere.

Norfolk asked for four House members instead of two, as at present. That city is likely to get three, which is the average according to the census of 1910. Its representatives said that population has been annexed since the census was taken, but such will be the case with Richmond before the decade is ended. Henric city asks for two House members, and seems likely to get them. Wise asks two, and may get one by itself. Buchanan and Dickenson will probably form one House district, while Tazewell will elect a member independently.

### Must Change Others.

To take care of the increases in these few localities there must be some rearrangement. Therefore, with Manchester eliminated, a district may be made out of Chesterfield, Powhatan and Gloucester, or Buckingham may be called in to join Appomattox, which has far too few people. On average, will probably be joined to some other county. All this is so far in the breast of the Committee on Privileges and Elections of the House, which had a hearing yesterday on House districts only. The Senate districts will be heard from to-morrow afternoon, with delegations from Northampton and King William counties, who desire to discuss their representations in both houses.

Altogether, the same spirit of standardism that was so much in evidence in the matter of rearranging the lines of congressional districts, was present in this instance, and the changes made will not, it is safe to say, be extensive or startling.

### Reports on Book Company.

Two reports will be made to the House of Delegates to-morrow from the special committee appointed to investigate the business of the Virginia Book Company. The majority report will be signed by S. T. A. Kent, of Halifax, the chairman, and by W. A. Willard, of King William. The minority is composed of S. H. Love, of Lunenburg.

While the members of the committee, which has held several open sessions, declined to discuss the reports in advance of their presentation to the House, it is known that the majority is in favor of the Virginia Book Company. That concern is stated to be a trust, but one whose operations are valuable to the people and not injurious in the matter of prices. While it is suggested that if the State Board of Education were to see that book publishers comply literally with their contracts, there would not be the necessity for the existence of this distributing house, which now appears to be the case, the concern itself is criticized to no appreciable degree.

Mr. Love thinks the Virginia Book Company is of a trust, but he thinks also that the State Board of Education has not done its full duty by the people.

### Women See Senators.

Into the ears of the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections there were poured last night the pleas of women of Virginia for equal suffrage. To a large extent the arguments were naturally along the same lines already heard by the House committee. A good-sized crowd attended the session, which was held in the hall of the House of Delegates.

The proposition met the same fate as it did in the House. The Senate committee held a brief session and reported the joint resolutions with a recommendation that they do not pass. Not a voice was raised against them at either hearing.

The House committee on Roads and Internal Navigation has so far found it impossible to reach any decision on the Williams rolling stock tax bill, argument on which was concluded Friday night. It met yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock for this purpose, but the Governor desired to consult the committee in regard to contract convict labor and the road-building questions, prior to the beginning of the formal hearings, and the committee rose and proceeded to the executive offices.

### House Committee on Privileges and Elections Has Placed the Matter of Congressional Redistricting into the Hands of a Subcommittee, with Instructions to Prepare and Report a Bill.

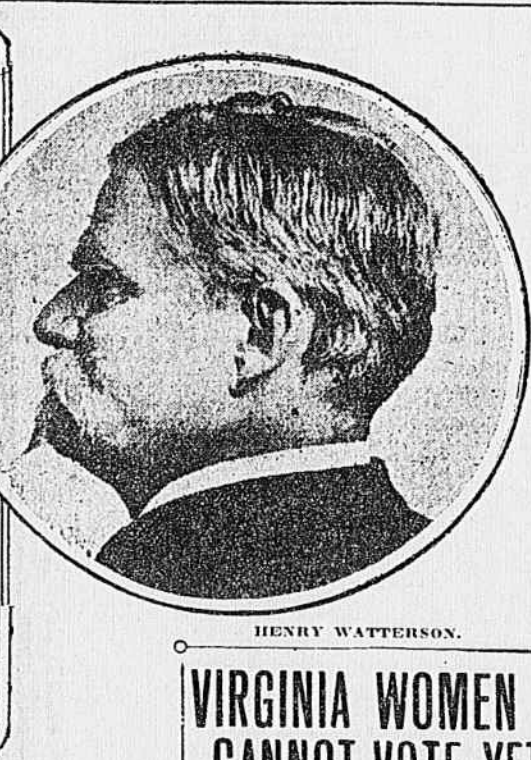
At 12:30 o'clock to-day there will begin in the House the consideration of the bill introduced by Speaker Byrd to create a State Tax Commission and to give it powers of supervision over local assessing officials. The House will go into Committee of the Whole on the matter, and at the conclusion of the debate the Speaker will request that it be recommitted to the committee on Finance, with instructions to embody in it such changes as will by that time have been made by votes of the House on amendments which are to be proposed.

In this debate it is expected that all sorts of objections to the bill that

The Sole Issue Is Whether I Have Lied, as Governor Wilson Says I Have, or He Has Lied, Which I Have Engaged Conclusively to Show. He Dare Not Face the Facts.—Henry Watterson.



WOODROW WILSON.



HENRY WATTERSON.

## LABOR ATTORNEY IS UNDER ARREST

Clarence S. Darrow Charged in Indictments With Bribery and Corruption.

## HE DEFENDED McNAMARA BOTH NARROWLY ESCAPE

His Own Trouble Is Outcome of Sensational Dynamiting Case.

Los Angeles, Cal., January 29.—Clarence S. Darrow, union labor attorney, to-day was indicted for bribery and corruption of jurors by the county grand jury, which for four weeks has been investigating allegations of corruption in connection with the trial jury in the McNamara dynamite case.

Two indictments were returned, containing four counts. Two of the counts charge Darrow with the bribery and attempted corruption of Robert Bain, the first juror sworn to try James B. McNamara, the confessed dynamiter and murderer, now serving a life term in San Quentin prison. The remaining counts allege the bribery and corruption of George N. Lockwood, a venetian, summoned in the McNamara case.

Bert Franklin, a detective, who is alleged actually to have passed the bribe money to Bain and Lockwood, is accused of the same offenses in informations filed some time ago in the Superior Court. Franklin's trial has been set for February 27.

### Glad Suspense Is Over.

The maximum penalty that could be imposed on Darrow for conviction of all counts is thirty years' imprisonment and fines aggregating \$10,000. He is under \$20,000 bail, but to-night the former chief defender of the McNamaras said he was glad the suspense was over and that he would face his arraignment on Thursday in the Superior Court with an equanimity born of innocence.

Darrow had several days' notice of the impending accusations, and on Saturday he retained Earl Rogers, an attorney, who directed the first work of unearthing evidence against the Times building dynamiters, and who later, as a special prosecutor, had charge of the grand jury investigation which resulted in the filing of the first dynamite indictment against Bryce (James B. McNamara), Schmidt and Caplan, early last year.

Judge C. F. McNutt, formerly of the Indiana superior bench, and associate counsel in the McNamara case, also was retained by Darrow.

To-day an intimation of the district attorney's office reached Mr. Darrow that the charges against him would be reported to-day, and he at once set about arranging for bail. Mrs. Leconte Davis, wife of one of Darrow's associates in the McNamara case, and Colonel Charles S. Young, a friend of the accused lawyer, supplied the bail fixed by Judge N. P. Conroy, who sat for Presiding Judge George H. Hutten.

### Warrants Served in Court.

Judge Conroy received the indictments and ordered bench warrants issued. The warrants were served on Darrow in the court room, and the judge asked Deputy District Attorney W. Bishop Ford what he thought would be a proper amount of bail. "This is a very serious charge," said Mr. Ford, "and I would suggest the highest amount compatible with the degree of gravity."

"Ten thousand on each indictment," said Judge Conroy, laconically.

Mrs. Davis and Young qualified at once, and Darrow, apparently greatly relieved, left court with his attorneys.

"This is something I never had to do before," said Darrow, as he shook hands with several friends, "but I think I can beat it."

The grand jury will resume its investigation to-morrow.

## SUICIDE FOLLOWS MURDER ATTEMPT

Jealous Farmer Tries to Kill Girl and His Rival.

## SEARCHERS FIND BODY IN WOODS WITH BULLET HOLE IN BRAIN.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

Chatham, Va., January 29.—The suicide of Giles Hunter Shelton, thirty years of age and a farmer, followed quickly upon his attempt to kill Miss Jamie Moore, with whom he was infatuated, and his rival, Ridwell Payne, whom Shelton found in Miss Moore's company, when he called Sunday afternoon.

After firing five times with a pistol at Miss Moore, all of the bullets going wild except one which passed through the sleeve of her dress, and one of the stray bullets penetrating the sleeve of Payne, Shelton ran from the Moore home and was not seen again until brothers of Miss Moore found his body in the woods near their home early this morning. A bullet hole in his temple, and the pistol grasped in his hand told the mute story of suicide.

The body of Shelton was found just a few minutes before Deputy Sheriff Haynes arrived at the scene of the attempted murder to place Shelton under arrest.

Shelton had been paying marked attention to Miss Moore for some time, and his friends think that the shooting was the result of finding Payne at the Moore home when he called yesterday afternoon. He was admitted to the parlor and engaged for a few minutes in conversation. Suddenly he whipped the pistol from his pocket and opened fire upon the unsuspecting girl.

Shelton was born and reared about ten miles from Chatham. He is survived by one brother and two sisters. He resided in 1870, on the death of his father. In 1880, on the occasion of his marriage with Princess Louise Victoria Alexandra Danimar, daughter of the then Prince of Wales, who later became King Edward VII., he was made a duke. The duke took a great interest in business, and was a partner in the London banking firm of Sir Samuel Scott & Co., as well as vice-president of the British South Africa Company. He was a colonel of volunteers and deputy lieutenant of the Scottish counties of Aberdeen and Banff. He was a Liberal member of Parliament from 1874 to 1879. He leaves two daughters.

### THREE CHILDREN KILLED

Burned to Death in Fire That Destroyed Their Home.

Spartanburg, S. C., January 29.—Three children of Walter J. Gibson, a prosperous farmer and former member of the Legislature, were burned to death three miles from Campbellville, when his home was destroyed by fire at 1 o'clock this morning. A fourth child was saved through the courage of a neighbor, but received burns which probably will be fatal.

Gibson went to Greenville Saturday, leaving the four children, ranging in age from eight to sixteen years, alone at home. How the fire started is not known, but it is believed that coal fell from a grate.

## VIRGINIA WOMEN CANNOT VOTE YET

Senate Committee Joins With House in Rejecting Suffrage Measure.

## NOT ONE DISSENTING VOICE

Speakers Plead Eloquent and Then Get Unanimous Adverse Report.

Woman suffrage received its second setback at the hands of the General Assembly last night, when the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections listened respectfully to two hours and a half of impassioned appeal and patient pleading, and then retired into executive session to formulate a unanimous recommendation that the Senate refuse to pass the Harman resolution providing for a constitutional amendment conferring upon women the same political rights as men. In thus following the precedent set by the House last week, the Senate effectively routed the small hope still remaining to the faithful that the upper house would deal more leniently with their cause.

Bain in torrents failed to keep the floor and gallery of the House of Delegates from being crowded with those who came to listen, and a small minority that came to scoff. One of the speakers seized upon the circumstance as suitable campaign material, and pointed to the eager women who had braved the storm as eloquent refutation of the argument that women do not want the ballot.

### The Female of the Species.

"The female of the species is equal to the male," declared Mrs. John H. Lewis, president of the Lynchburg Equal Suffrage League, paraphrasing with good effect Kipling's much quoted line on the disfranchisement of the colored people. She was the second speaker in the opinion of the evening, the ablest argument of the evening in favor of the enfranchisement of women. She was introduced by Mrs. B. B. Valentine as a mother and grandmother.

"Every strain of society has been freed except woman," said Mrs. Lewis. "She has been kept in the same class with the feeble-minded, the criminal and the lunatic."

Quoting the preamble to the Constitution of the United States to the effect that man is born with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, she asked the committee to remember that "man" was here used not solely to designate the male half of humanity, but that the term was generic and included also the other half.

### Enemies of Woman Suffrage.

Among the enemies of woman suffrage Mrs. Lewis included corrupt politicians seeking to perpetuate their power; schoolkeepers and the liquor interests, keepers of questionable resorts and grasping corporations. She admitted the novelty of the demand now being made by Virginia women but reminded the committee that when John looked upon it as an outrage, and that its newness therefore should not be permitted to rout the sense of justice.

"We women don't want to be put on a pedestal," she said. "The pedestal in this case is synonymous with the selfishness, and we are tired of being shelved. I honestly believe that I shall never hear the word chivalry again without feeling a sense of nausea. We do not care for that kind of chivalry which humbers us and regards us as in the same class with imbeciles."

She concluded her address with the statement that the women of Virginia will never break ranks or stack arms until the battle for equal rights is won.

### Miss Johnston's Sarcasm.

Miss Mary Johnston, in making the first address of the evening, delved into history and quoted Epictetus and Aristotle to show the inconsistency of the usual arguments advanced by opponents of equal suffrage. Her address bristled with telling arguments, and scorched occasionally with its intense sarcasm.

"Society exists to-day for man alone," said Miss Johnston, "and for woman only in so far as she is represented by man or in his keeping. Who delegated to man this right to stand for a half of the human race, taxed without representation and represented without its consent?"

The two scores of women who recent-

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## WHO HAS LIED? NOW IS SOLE ISSUE, SAYS HENRY WATTERSON

Kentucky Editor "Engages Conclusively to Show" That Woodrow Wilson Is the One Who Has Borne False Witness, and "Dare Not Face the Facts."

## CHARGES JERSEY GOVERNOR WITH GROVELING AT FEET OF HARVEY, WHOM HE SPURNED

Refuses "Longer to Follow a Man Whose Nomination Would Be a Disaster and Election a Calamity," to Whom No Abasement Is Impossible in His Selfish Aims; Who Objects to Ryan Money While Seeking Carnegie Pension and "Rattles Round as Hero"—Closes "Distasteful Episode" With Vitriolic Letter Addressed to the Democrats of the United States.

Washington, January 29.—Colonel Henry Watterson, in a statement issued to-night, and intended to bring a "distasteful episode" to an end, so far as he was concerned, declared that the issue between him and Governor Wilson was solely as to which one had "lied." Colonel Watterson said he "had engaged conclusively to show" that Governor Wilson had lied, and charged that the New Jersey Executive "dared not face the facts."

Colonel Watterson declined to make public any proofs in his possession. He denied that Thomas F. Ryan had ever been approached for campaign contributions for Governor Wilson, but stated that the matter had been talked over with Governor Wilson, and the latter had "expressed the fear" that if the knowledge of a contribution from Mr. Ryan got abroad "it might do more harm than good."

Colonel Watterson's statement, addressed "to the Democrats of the United States," follows:

"The time limit set upon my stay in the national capital being about to expire, and Governor Wilson having refused my offer as to the issue of veracity he has raised between us to submit proof of the truth of my avowal to party associates competent to judge both of its character and the expediency of its publication, I shall bring this most distasteful episode to a close, as far as I am concerned.

### Says Sole Issue Is "Who Has Lied?"

"The claim that I must rush into print with this proof emanates either from the perverse or the malignant. I have offered, under proper supervision, to produce it, and can be asked in reason to do no more. If I should publish it, the very men who are demanding that I shall would be first to accuse me of reckless disregard of what they would call party prudence and private rights. The sole issue is whether I have lied, as Governor Wilson says I have, or he has lied, which I have engaged conclusively to show. He dare not face the facts.

"With as brief a review as may be of the circumstances to which I owe the misfortune of having made Governor Wilson's acquaintance, not to mention my indorsement of his plausible but specious pretensions, I shall cease to trouble the public with a controversy nowise of my seeking.

"During the early summer of 1910 I was passing a week-end with Colonel George Harvey, an old friend, at Deal Beach, his home in New Jersey. There arrived for dinner Dr. Woodrow Wilson, then president of Princeton, and the Honorable James Smith, Jr., late a Senator in Congress. Dr. Wilson I had never met before. The talk at the table was mainly about the prospective nomination of a Democratic candidate for Governor of New Jersey. Drawn into the conversation, I ventured the opinion that if nothing more than a governorship was in sight, it would be a sacrifice for Dr. Wilson to quit his exalted station at the head of a great university and get down into the bulging of politics to struggle for preferment so ephemeral and uncertain.

### Harvey Seemed Under Wilson's Spell.

"That was probably what Colonel Harvey, who seemed under some spell wrought by Dr. Wilson, had planned. Mr. Smith declared that he wanted nothing for himself, only to see the State redeemed; that no one but Dr. Wilson could redeem it, and the like. In due season Dr. Wilson was nominated and elected."

"Not long after I was called to New York. The situation in New Jersey was explained to me. I was told that Mr. Smith wished to return to the Senate, despite his declaration that he wanted nothing for himself; that there had been a primary election, which had gone by default, in which a person of the name of Martine, represented as wholly unfit, had obtained a rather meagre vote; that Governor Wilson held Senator Smith to his bond and stood by the party pledge touching primary elections. In this he was clearly right.

"The presidential campaign, to which the gubernatorial election had served as a prelude, began. In a manner I had been arguoned—I will not say decoyed—into the service of Governor Wilson and Colonel Harvey. The succeeding ten months brought me into confidential relations with Governor Wilson. Letters passed between us. Upon his invitation and on his business I visited his home in Princeton. He was good enough last winter to come to the steamer to see me off for Europe. We were even caught by the inevitable kodak fiend and pictorialized in the ribald press side by side, making quite a touching group. I found him a man of polished manners, scholarly attainments and undeniable talents.

### Did Not Thrust Himself on Wilson.

"On my return from abroad the Governor met me in New York. Again, in November and December, we regathered there. In short, nothing was wanting to the most cordial and unrestrained intimacy. I make this detailed statement because the public might well fancy from the Governor's present attitude that I had in some way thrust myself upon him and that my friendship and support had not been desired by him.

"The fortnight immediately preceding the interview at the Manhattan Club, of which I have been at pains to say as little as was needful to justice between man and man and man and man, I had done what I could in the interest of his campaign. I was met on my arrival in New York by a most urgent appeal for money from a gentleman of distinction, closely associated with, if not actually directing, the Wilson organization, and in answer to this I was able at once to secure a considerable sum of money. The meeting at the Manhattan Club was designed still further to push forward and perfect the work of organization. Else why and for what was the Governor there?

"To confuse and mislead the public he has latterly adopted a policy of alternate silence and sneering. Giving the lie direct to my statement that I was asked to help the financial end of his campaign, and declining my offer to submit the proof of its truth to a body of gentlemen and Democrats equally concerned with ourselves, for the well-being of the party, he thinks to cloud the issue and escape its menace by turning upon me the irresponsible chatter of a literary bureau which claims to live off the immaculate contributions of subscribers having wings, harps and halos, and which has been for weeks flooding the country with every manner of falsification. The very existence of this, to say nothing of the sources of its being, should set honest people to thinking.

### Ryan Story Is "Life" Out of Whole Cloth.

"The Ryan story, which has made such an impression upon the unknowing and unreflecting, was as far as it related to Colonel Harvey, a lie out of the whole cloth. Though Governor Wilson knows this, he has allowed it to circulate without a word of contradiction. The attempt which followed its exposure by me to make it appear that I have intimated that application was made to Mr. Ryan to cut off the same cloth and is characteristic of the duplicity which attaches itself to the entire proceeding of the Governor and his publicity agents.

"The suggestion of Mr. Ryan was eagerly caught up by those agents. Fancy a political promoter refusing money from anywhere or anybody? But when I spoke to Governor Wilson about it he said some unedifying things of Mr. Ryan, expressing a fear that if the knowledge of such a contribution got abroad it might do more harm than good, an opinion with which Colonel Harvey promptly concurred, and the matter went no further. I might have asked Governor Wilson how he could reconcile his objection to Ryan money, which had not yet been offered him, with his demand for Carnegie pension money, which had been denied him. But, although growing a little impatient under his sudden change of demeanor, I did not wish to be disagreeable. Certain it is that Mr.

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